



UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
LANCASTER

PALM 493 – South Carolina Studies
Monday, 5:30 – 8:00 p.m.

SPRING 2012
Dr. Cox

Office: 118 Hubbard Hall (USC Lancaster)
Office Hours: Monday thru Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. (by appointment and/or luck)
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Course Description: (3 credit hours) (Prereq: Junior standing) Reading and writing about South Carolina from historical as well as contemporary political, economic, multi-cultural, and social perspectives, incorporating elements of the student's major and cognate, with a commitment to becoming an educated and participatory citizen of South Carolina.

Course Outcomes: Upon successful completion of the course, student will be able to:

- Identify major elements of life (political, economic, social) in present-day South Carolina;
- Identify major trends and themes in South Carolina history (political, economic, social, and cultural) since the late 19th Century, and their connection to present-day South Carolina;
- Identify themselves as South Carolinians and their role as a productive citizen within the context of a modern, forward thinking South Carolina.

Required Texts: Bass, Jack and Jack Nelson. *The Orangeburg Massacre*
Bass, Jack and Marilyn W. Thompson. *Strom: The Complicated Personal and Political Life of Strom Thurmond*
Edgar, Walter. *South Carolina in the Modern Age*
Fields, Mamie Garvin. *Lemon Swamp & Other Places: A Carolina Memoir*
Frank, Dorothea Benton. *Pawley's Island: A Lowcountry Tale*
Peterkin, Julia. *Green Thursday*
Robertson, Ben. *Red Hills & Cotton: An Upcountry Memory*

Additional reading assignments may be announced in class and made available (either in paper or electronically).

Absences: This course meets one night per week, and class participation will be a major point of each student's final grade. Each student will be permitted to miss ONE (1) class without penalty. Each absence beyond that will result in a **ONE LETTER GRADE PENALTY PER MISSED CLASS ON THE STUDENT'S FINAL GRADE**. Tardies, for any reason, will be counted as ½ of an absence. Leaving class early without prior notification and approval will also count as an absence.

Course Structure: Reading assignments will be made for each week's class. (These are listed in the "course outline" later in this syllabus.)

For ELEVEN (11) of the reading assignments, students will submit a brief (2-3 pages, typed, double-spaced) response paper to the instructor via SAFE ASSIGNMENT on Electronic Blackboard.

PAPERS MUST BE SUBMITTED VIA SAFE ASSIGNMENT – NOT IN PERSON, NOT VIA DIGITAL DROPBOX, NOT VIA E-MAIL. No paper submitted in any other fashion than Safe Assignment will be accepted, and NO LATE PAPERS WILL BE SUBMITTED FOR ANY REASON.

If you are unfamiliar with Electronic Blackboard, use the following directions:

- 1) Write your response paper and save the file. (I recommend using Microsoft Word. **DO NOT USE SYMBOLS, such as “#” in your file name. Blackboard will not accept and transmit such files. Use a file name that readily identifies the item. If your name is “Smith” then you might name it “Smith Response Paper 1.”**)
- 2) Access Electronic Blackboard (<http://blackboard.sc.edu>)
- 3) Open the Course (PALM 493: South Carolina Studies)
- 4) Go to ASSIGNMENTS and access the appropriate link for submitting your file.

By “Response Paper,” I mean just that – YOUR personal response (your “gut reaction,” if you will) to the reading and what it says to YOU about South Carolina and its people. These are not intended to be overly lofty analyses or scholarly interpretations of the works. They should come from your unique and individual perspective as the reader, and should demonstrate not only an understanding of the material, but also that you have given serious thought and consideration to what you have read.

HOW YOU WRITE will constitute a significant portion of your grade. So yes, watch your spelling, grammar, sentence structure, punctuation, etc. And **if you use a quote from the book, you must use quotation marks and cite the page from which you get the passage.**

Poorly written papers – those with grammatical errors, spelling errors, or generally poor construction – will receive a failing grade. This is a 400-level course, and by this point in your University career, you should be able to write with a considerable degree of skill.

RESPONSE PAPERS MUST BE SUBMITTED BEFORE THE START OF EACH CLASS. THE LINK FOR SUBMITTING PAPERS WILL DISAPPEAR AT THE BEGINNING OF EACH CLASS MEETING.

- Files sent to the Instructor will show the date and time submitted.
- Files sent from the Instructor will show the date and time received.

Each class will be centered around DISCUSSION of the assigned readings. The instructor will facilitate discussion but will not dominate it. For each class meeting, each student will receive a CLASS PARTICIPATION GRADE, assigned by the Instructor.

Within 24 hours of each class (that is, by 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday AFTER class), each student will submit a short (2-3 paragraphs) written assessment of his/her performance in class.

In each of these papers, each student will also discuss the student (other than himself/herself) who contributed most (in terms of quality, not necessarily quantity) to the day's discussion. These will also be submitted via Safe Assignment on Electronic Blackboard, and the submission rules noted above for the Response Papers also apply here.

An example of this self- and peer assessment might look something like this:

During today's discussion of Lewis Jones' South Carolina: A Synoptic History, I contributed to class by talking about the mill villages and my own experiences in growing up in a family whose members worked in the mills. I could remember my Grandfather talking about the close-knit community in the mill village -- the picnics, baseball games, and things like that - in the same way that the author described his own life growing up near Greenwood. By talking about this, I believe that I was able to share with my classmates some insight about what it was like to live in this part of South Carolina society.

The class member whom I believe contributed most to today's discussion was Mary Smith from the Laurens campus. Her comments about South Carolina agriculture and her feelings about growing up in rural South Carolina really showed me a side of life in South Carolina that I had never experienced. It was almost as though we were talking about different worlds -- the mill villages vis-a-vis the farms of the Lowcountry. I had never before thought about how very diverse life in this small state can be.

Finally, each student will submit (through SAFE ASSIGNMENT) a FINAL PAPER (due no later than 5:00 PM on 30 April - NO LATE PAPERS). The paper must be 8-10 pages in length (again typed, double-spaced) and will answer the question WHO IS THE SOUTH CAROLINIAN?

Student grades on these papers will be based on the following criteria:

- Paper addresses the question from a variety of perspectives, including political, economic, social and intellectual
- Paper references the scholarly literature discussed in class
- Paper demonstrates critical thinking and analysis of subject matter

PLAGIARISM. The USC *Student Handbook* defines plagiarism as "submitting, as a student's own work, material obtained from another source without indicating the source from which it was obtained. It further includes letting another person compose or rewrite a student's written assignment."

The *Handbook* notes that each professor has "the right and the responsibility to deal with such infractions as he or she determines appropriate."

In your instructor's eyes, plagiarism is a cardinal sin. If you copy directly from a book or other source (e.g., a website) and try to claim the words and ideas as your own, you are guilty of theft and will be dealt with accordingly.

Copying a source and changing an occasional word is just as wrong, indeed, is worse since it indicates recognition of guilt and an effort to cover it up.

While your instructor would prefer a harsher punishment for plagiarism (such as public flogging, hanging, or decapitation), South Carolina law and University policy tend to frown on such.

Therefore, **any student guilty of plagiarism for any assignment will receive a failing grade for the course and, if appropriate, will be reported to the USC Office of Academic Integrity. The Office of Academic Integrity may take additional action, up to and including removal from Palmetto Programs and suspension from the University of South Carolina.**

A NOTE ON CLASSROOM DECORUM:

As of right now, this is a very large class and because it is intended to be an interactive class (that is, dominated by class discussion), it will be very important that certain rules of basic etiquette are followed.

Because of the “long distance” nature of the course, I am not able to be physically present in each classroom when we meet. I am therefore expecting that you will conduct yourself with the proper respect and decorum.

Each student will be expected to participate in classroom discussion. Until you are called upon to offer your comments, however, you are expected to remain silent and to listen to what your fellow students are contributing. (This will be necessary for you to submit a reasonable peer assessment as well.)

Each student is expected to police himself or herself, as well as each other. If someone is causing a disturbance, please make me aware of it as soon as possible. The student will receive a written warning.

If a second notification is received, the student will be contacted directly by the professor (probably by telephone) and given both a verbal and second written warning.

Any student who is reported for classroom disruptions for a third time will be banned from class and will receive a failing grade for the course.

In this course, we will be discussing many aspects of South Carolina – some of them are pretty, and some of them are not so pretty. Some of the readings will not be easy to stomach without a visceral reaction.

This is perfectly fine – in fact, it is my hope that the readings and the discussions will have an impact on you.

In a University classroom, we should be able to discuss difficult subjects and still maintain a sense of order and decorum, and **UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WILL PERSONAL ATTACKS BE TOLERATED.**

Anyone violating this policy will be banned from the class and will receive a failing grade for the course. Depending on the nature and degree of the offense, a student may be reported to the USC Office of Academic Integrity for additional action.

Each student will be expected to abide by the standards of behavior established in the CAROLINIAN CREED. If you are unfamiliar with the CREED, here it is:

The Carolinian Creed

The community of scholars at the University of South Carolina is dedicated to personal and academic excellence.

Choosing to join the community obligates each member to a code of civilized behavior.

As a Carolinian...

I will practice personal and academic integrity;

I will respect the dignity of all persons;

I will respect the rights and property of others;

I will discourage bigotry, while striving to learn from differences in people, ideas and opinions;

I will demonstrate concern for others, their feelings, and their need for conditions which support their work and development.

Allegiance to these ideals requires each Carolinian to refrain from and discourage behaviors which threaten the freedom and respect every individual deserves.

GRADE SCALE/WEIGHTS:

<u>Assignment Weights</u>	<u>Grade Scale</u>	
Weekly Response Papers 11@ 50 points each = 550 points	A 1600 – 1480 points B+ 1479 – 1430 points B 1429 – 1350 points	PLEASE REMEMBER THAT ALL BLS AND BOL DEGREE-SEEKING STUDENTS MUST PASS PALM 493 WITH A GRADE OF “C” OR BETTER.
Self & Peer Assessments 12@ 20 points each = 240 points	C+ 1349 – 1300 points C 1299 – 1220 points D+ 1219 – 1175 points	
Class Participation (determined by instructor) – 210 points	D 1174 – 1110 points F Below 1110 points	
Final Paper – 600 points		
TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS: 1600		

COURSE OUTLINE

Each reading assignment must be completed BEFORE class.

Date	Topic	Readings
January 09	Introduction to Course and Syllabus Review	WPA Guide, "Who is the South Carolinian?"
January 16	MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. HOLIDAY (No Classes)	
January 23	South Carolina in the Early 20 th Century	Edgar, Ch. I & II (pp. 17-80)
January 30	Five Decades of Change in the Palmetto State (1941-1991)	Edgar, Chs. III & IV (pp. 81-142)
February 06	Memories of the Lowcountry, Part I	Fields, pp. 1-122
February 13	Memories of the Lowcountry, Part II	Fields, pp. 123-247
February 20	NO CLASS MEETING	
February 27	Tales of the Lowcountry	Frank, <i>Pawley's Island</i>
March 05	SPRING BREAK (No Classes)	
March 12	Memories of the Upcountry, Part I	Robertson, pp. 1-149
March 19	Memories of the Upcountry, Part II	Robertson, pp. 150-296
March 26	Religion & Race in South Carolina	Peterkin, <i>Green Thursday</i>
April 02	South Carolina Politics, Part I	Bass & Thompson, pp. 1-181
April 09	South Carolina Politics, Part II	Bass & Thompson, pp. 182-368
April 16	The Tragedy of Race, Part I	Bass & Nelson, pp. 1-119
April 23	The Tragedy of Race, Part II	Bass & Nelson, pp. 121-241
FINAL PAPER DUE BY 5:00 PM on MONDAY, APRIL 30		